POLIPODIUM Filix-mas.

Lin. Sp. Pl. 1551. *Ray Syn.* 120. *Flo. Scot.* 671. *Flo. Ang.* 458. *Ger. Em.* 1130. *Park.* 1036.

TAB. XXIV.

MALE FERN.

THE root is large, long, firm, and woody, ſurrounded on the outſide with thick brown ſcales in an imbricated order, and furniſhed with many long black tough fibres.

The firſt leaves from one to four feet in length; when young, the rib is thickly covered with brown tough tranſparent ſcales of an oblique oval lance-ſhape; the general figure of the leaf is lance-ſhaped, broadeſt in the middle, and thence gradually decreaſing to each extremity, and terminating above in an acute point.

Second leaves from fifteen to forty pairs, remote on the lower part, growing gradually nearer upwards, and running together at the top.

Lobes from ſeven to fifteen pairs, the loweſt pair largeſt, decreaſing upwards till they run together and loſe themſelves in the point of the ſecond leaf,